

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HAVANA 00323 121758Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 MCT-01 IO-13 ACDA-12 SSM-03

EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AF-10 EB-08 INT-05 FEAE-00 TRSE-00 COME-00 /135 W

-----066769 121805Z /40

R 121345Z OCT 77

FM USINT HAVANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 284

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIA

USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L HAVANA 0323

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS XF IS CU

SUBJ: CUBANS ACKNOWLEDGE SYMPATHY WITH PALESTINIAN REJECTION
FRONT

1. IN COURSE OF TOUR D'HORIZON WITH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS (MINREX) DIRECTOR AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS ALBERTO VELAZCO, OCTOBER 7, LATTER SAID THAT CUBANS RECOGNIZE PLO, UNDERSTOOD MOST BORADLY AS INCLUDING GEORGE HABBASH'S (REJECTIONIST" FACTION, AS EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIANS. VELAZCO SAID THAT CUBANS HAVE CONTACTS WITH HABBASH, AS WELL AS WITH MAINSTREAM PALESTINIAN GROUPS. VELAZCO DECLINED TO SPECULATE ON CUBAN ATTITUDE TOWARD PLO SHOULD HABBASH GROUP DEFINITELY CONDEMN PLO IN CONNECTION WITH PALESTINIAN MOVES TOWARD GENEVA.

2. VELAZCO SAID THAT CUBANS SUPPORT EXPEDITIOUS CONVENING OF GENEVA CONFERENCE AND ARE AWARE OF UNREALISTIC CHARACTER OF ASPIRATIONS OF SOME PALESTINIANS WHO, INSTEAD OF SEEKING TO ESTABLISH WEST BANK MINI-STATE, WISH TO EXTRIPATE ISRAEL. ON OTHER HAND, CUBANS FIND EXTREMIST ATTITUDES UNDERSTANDABLE AND
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ARE SYMPATHETIC TO PALESTINIAN DIFFICULTIES IN DECIDING ON HOW DIVERSE PALESTINIAN VIEWS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, AND HOW PLO WILL BE REPRESENTED, IF AT ALL, AT GENEVA.

3. COMMENT: CUBANS ARE CLEARLY WALKING TIGHTROPE BETWEEN DESIRE TO SUPPORT SOVIET ANDMODERATE ARAB-ENDORSED GENEVA CONFERENCE AND URGE TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH LIBYAN AND IRAQI

BACKERS OF "REJECTION FRONT". IRAQIS HERE HAVE INDICATED THAT
CUBA RECENTLY HAS SOUGHT LOAN FROM BAGHDAD. IN ADDITION TO CASH,
IRAQI AND LIBYAN OIL PROVIDES POSSIBLE FUTURE SAFETY VALVE FOR
CUBA--NOW ALMOST ONE HUNDRED PERCENT DEPENDENT ON USSR FOR
PETROLEUM.

LANE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: PINS, PDEV, PBOR, XF, IS, CU, US, PLO, PALESTINIAN REJECTION FRONT
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